Payment of arrears to teachers of Senior Secondary School Rajouri Garden New Delhi

893. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some arrears arising out of the revised pay scales pertaining to teachers of Government Senior Secondary School, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi, for the period 1975—85 had been lying pending with the Directorate of Education, Delhi since 1987;

(b) if so, the number of such teachers who have not so far been paid the arrears and the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the arrears are likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) Payment of arrears arising out of the revised pay scales in respect of one teacher only is pending due to non-availability of 'Due and Drawn' Statement from the schools where he worked. Efforts are being made to pay him arrears shortly.

Theft of art objects from Museum and Art Galleries

894. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what according to the study, if any, is the percentage of rise|decline in the theft of art objects from the various museums and art galleries in the country during the last three years (Year-wise) stating the progressive percentage of rise in the estimated cost of the stolen art objects;

(b) what is the percentage of recovery of the stolen art objects;

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to critically review the arrangements for the safety and protection of art objects in the museums and art galleries to remove the deficiencies, if any, identified; and

(d) whether any cases of involvement of the officials in the theft of art objects have come to light, if so, what are the details thereof stating the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (d) The relevant information is being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Ill effect of comic books and T.V. Serials

895. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the rising trend in the comic book culture among the younger generation in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any study|survey to know the psychological impact on the minds of the school going children and in developing juvenile tendencies with comic book culture and with the telecasting of comic serials on TV; and

(c) if so, what is the outcome thereof stating the manner in which Government propose to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) While government has not conducted a specific study of comics being published in the country and their effect on children but it is well known that many comics are popular among children. While all the comics are not good or attractive, some of the comics brought out by the Children's Book Trust and Amar Chitrakatha

are educative and very good. Similarly, many of the serials|programmes for children telecast on TV are undoubtedly educative and provide healthy entertainment. In view of this, the Government is not thinking of interventing in the matter at present.

Traffic on National Highway 47

896. SHRI K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any increase in vehicular traffic on National Highways in Kerala, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether in view of the increased volume of traffic on National Highway 47, there is any proposal under Government consideration to double the highway to ease traffic and reduce number of accidents; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in negative, what other steps are proposed to be taken to ease traffic on National Highway 47 in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir. There is an increase in vehicular traffic on National Highways in Kerala. On an average, increase has been about 9 per cent per annum on NH 47 and about 13 per cent per annum on NH 17.

(b) Four laning of NH 47 in the reach between Alwaye and Cochin is included in the current Five Year Plan and the investiagtion work thereon is in progress.

(c) Does not arise.

रांची से हवाई जहाज की उड़ान 409/410 का विलम्बित तथा अनियमित होना

897. **श्री अश्विनी कुमार :** क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि रांची से उड़ान भरने वाले हवाई जहाज की उड़ान संख्या 409/410 के पहुंचने तथा उसके प्रस्थान में विलम्ब होता है ; और यदि हां, तो नवम्बर, 87 से मार्च, 1988 की अवधि के बीच उक्त उड़ान किस किस तारीख को पहुंची तो सही किन्तु तकनीकी कारणों से रांची हवाई अड्डे पर उतर न सकी ;

(ख) उक्त उड़ानों के रांची न उतर पाने की स्थिति में यात्रियों को ठहराने, किराये की राशि लौटाने तथा अन्य मदों पर कितनी धनराशि खर्च की गई ; और

(ग) उक्त उड़ान सुरक्षित ढंग रांची उतरे, इसके लिए सरकार ने क्या उपाय किये हैं ?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाईटलर) : (क) नवम्बर, 1987 से मार्च, 1988 की अवधि के दौरान ऐसा कोई अवसर नहीं था जब इंडियन एयरलाइन्स की उड़ान संख्या आई सी–409/410 रांची हवाई अड्डे पर न उतर सकी हो । लेकिन तकनीकी कारणों से रांची में तीन अवसरों पर अर्थात् 18–11–1987, 22–12–1987 और 16–1–1988 को उड़ान में विलम्ब हुआ था ।

(ख) इंडियन एयरलाइन्स ने 1,57,643 रुपए का कुल खर्च किया ।

(ग) सरकार द्वारा कोई विशेष उपायों को आवश्यक नहीं समझा गया ।

Extension of Railway line from Rishikesh to Karan Prayag

898. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Miaister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that near about the First World War period a survey was conducted for extending the railway line from Rishikesh to Karan Prayag; if so, what was the outcome; and